

3 ~~49.~~ The device of claim ~~48~~ wherein the affinity reagent is bound to a filter element
4 within the tip.

1 50. The device of claim 48 wherein the tip is a micropipette.

1 51. The device of claim 49 wherein the tip is a micropipette.

1 ~~52.~~ The device of claim ~~49~~ wherein the filter element is securely fixed to the tip.

1 53. The device of claim 5 wherein the filter element is securely fixed to the tip.

1 ~~54.~~ The device of claim ~~49~~ wherein the filter element is removably fixed within the
2 tip.

1 ~~53.~~ The device of claim ~~51~~ wherein the filter element is removably fixed within the
2 tip.

1 56. A method for the separation of a component of a specimen comprising the steps
2 of:

3 a. providing a tip having an affinity reagent present, and

4 b. flowing a volume of the specimen through the tip, thereby binding the
5 component to the affinity reagent.

1 ~~57~~. The method according to claim ~~56~~ further including the step of washing the
2 retained affinity reagent with bound component by flowing rinses through the tip.

1 ¹¹/~~58~~. The method according to claim ¹⁰/~~57~~ further including the step of flowing an
2 effective dissociation solution through the tip and over the retained affinity
3 reagent with bound component, thereby eluting the bound compound from the
4 affinity reagent.

5 ¹²/~~59~~. The method according to claim ¹¹/~~58~~ wherein the dissociation solution is a MALDI
6 matrix.

1 ¹³/~~60~~. The method according to claim ¹¹/~~58~~ further including the step of depositing the
2 eluted component directly onto a mass spectrometer probe tip.

3 ¹⁴/~~61~~. The method according to claim ¹³/~~60~~ further including the step of depositing a
4 MALDI matrix to the mass spectrometer probe tip

1 ¹⁵/~~62~~. The method according to claim ¹²/~~59~~ further including the step of depositing the
2 eluted component directly onto a mass spectrometer probe tip.

1 ¹⁶/~~63~~. The method according to claim ¹³/~~60~~ further including the step of inserting the mass
2 spectrometer probe tip into a mass spectrometer, thereby enabling laser
3 desorption/ionization of the component.

1 ¹⁷/~~64~~. The method according to claim ¹⁴/~~61~~ further including the step of inserting the mass
2 spectrometer probe tip into a mass spectrometer, thereby enabling laser
3 desorption/ionization of the component.

1 ¹⁸
~~65.~~ The method according to claim ¹⁵~~62~~ further including the step of inserting the mass
2 spectrometer probe tip into a mass spectrometer, thereby enabling laser
3 desorption/ionization of the component.

1 ¹⁹
~~66.~~ The method according to claim ¹⁶~~63~~ further including the step of performing mass
2 spectrometric analysis on the eluted component.

Q2 1 ²⁰
~~67.~~ The method according to claim ¹⁷~~64~~ further including the step of performing mass
2 spectrometric analysis on the eluted component.

1 ²¹
~~68.~~ The method according to claim ¹⁸~~65~~ further including the step of performing mass
2 spectrometric analysis on the eluted component.

1 ²²
~~69.~~ A method for the separation of a component of a specimen comprising the steps
2 of:
3 a. providing a tip,
4 b. binding the component to an affinity reagent,
5 c. forcing a volume of the affinity reagent with bound component through
6 the tip, thereby retaining the affinity reagent with bound component within
7 the tip,
8 d. washing the retained affinity reagent with bound component by forcing
9 rinses through the tip,